

Another Letter from the same hand, upon the same Subject with the former.

Illustri Viro

Dom. Henrico Oldenburgio,
Illustrissimæ Regiæ Societ. Secretario,
amico honorando, Joh. Hevelius, S.

Literas meas, die 1 Maii nuper datas, spero Te optimè accepisse, atque ex eis intellexisse, Cometam hinc Gedani die 27 April. primùm illuxisse: nunc ad continuandam hujus phænomeni Historiolam nonnulla adhuc addam, quid videlicet tum ejus cursu contigerit, & quando planè hinc visui sese subduxerit. Atque ita die 1 Maii vesperi, uti in dictis literis vobis perscripseram, sperabam me Cometam quoque observaturum, ut ut in decliviori situ; sed adversa aëris temperies, id omninò tum impendebat: At verò die 2 Maii vesperi, Cælo rursus sereno, horâ 8. 45', etiamsi eâ in parte Cæli, nulla adhuc Stella emicaret, intensumque crepusculum existeret, nihilominus Cometam Tubo Optico ivimus quæsitum, quem etiam protinùs inveni, sicuti omnes spectatores testabuntur. Paulò post, illum in altitudine 3. 30' sextante majori, à Capella & Lucidâ Cathedræ Cassiopeæ dimensus sum: Caudam referebat, ratione crepusculi, valde tenuem, quam inter utrumque genu Cassiopeæ, propius tamen sinistro exporrigebat: occidebat eâ vesperâ horâ 10 Circium versus, h. e. Nord Nord west. Die 3 Maii mane, Cælo rursus perquam sereno Cometa oriebatur Boream versus, h. e. Nord Nord ost, horâ scilicet 1. 23', quanquam Cauda paulò citius à nobis detecta, nempe hor. 1. 18', observatus est à Capella, Lucido Latere Persei, & Lucida Cathedræ Cassiopeæ, versabatur in 14 grad. 8, cum Sole ferè in ipsâ Conjunctione, Latitudinem habens 17 grad., & tantam etiam distantiam ferè ab ipso Sole. Caudam hâc die longè prolixiorẽ & acutiorẽ satisque splendidam 2 vel 3 ferè grad. ostendebat. Hincque à me aliisque spectatoribus visu pollentibus nudo oculo ad hor. 3. 34' deprehensus est, & Telescopio ad hor. 3. 40', in altitudine 11°. 30'; adeò ut Sol eo tempore tantummodò 6 grad. infra horizontem lateret; imò diutius illum vidissemus, nisi nubecula illum nobis eripuissent: Motus diurnus decrecere videbatur, quantum conjecturâ absque omni calculo assequi potui. Nam inter 29 & 30 April. 2°. 45' ferè extitit; inter 30 Apr. & 1 Maii 2°. 15'; inter 1 & 2 Maii 1°. 55'; inter 2 & 3 Maii 1. 40'; sed ipse observationes calculusque id clariùs ostendent. Die 3 Maii vesperi Cælum minimè erat serenum; die vero 4 Maii vesperi, aëre admodum sudo, horâ 8. 53', iterum Cometa detectus, sed obscurior paulo extitit, quam diebus præcedentibus, tum Cauda

brevior ; dimensus eum sum à Capellâ, & Lucidâ Cathedræ Cassiopeæ. Die 5 Maii mane horâ 1.41'. Cometa primum apparuit, ob obscuriores scilicet nubes horizontem insidentes ; observatus rursus est, à Capellâ, Cingulo Andromedæ, & Lucido Latere Persei, caudam dextrum genu Cassiop. versus exponens ; versabatur in 178, in 16 Latit. Bor., pariter in tantâ distantia à Sole ; motus proprius à die 3 ad 5 Maii fuit ferè $2^{\circ}.40'$, decresciente Latitudine, ab ipso initio scilicet ferè ad 3 grad. ; sic ut in 29 April. motus proprius Cometæ ad 5 Maii propemodum fuerit 12 grad. Eâdem die vesperi clarè quidem rursus illuxit, sed minimè, ob gravissimas occupationes, observatus. Die 6 Maii mane, rursus illum dimensus sum ; sed ruditer tantum, ob nubes, à Capellâ inprimis & Lucidâ Cathedræ Cass. ; commorabatur eo tempore in $18^{\circ}8'$, & Latit. Bor. $15^{\circ}.30'$, Sole existente in $17^{\circ}8'$; motus diurnus erat $50'$, circit. Quoad caput, quàm caudam multò tenuior ac debilior videbatur, ob Solem non nisi $16\frac{1}{2}$ grad. à Cometâ remotum. Die 6 Maii vesperi visus quidem Tubo Optico hor. sc. 8.35', cauda adhuc breviori & dilutiori ; sed cum in decliviori situ, atque in crepusculo intenso existeret, nullo modo distinctè in nudos incurrebat oculos. Die 7 Maii deprehensus primum hor. 2.22' in altitudine 3° ; observabatur rursus à Capellâ, & Lucido Latere Persei, ut ut valdè tenuis videretur ; occupabat eo tempore $19^{\circ}8'$, in Latitudine 15° Bor., & distantia à Sole 16° ferè, Sole existente in 18 grad. 8 ; motus ejus proprius magis magisque decresebat, quantum colligere absque calculo dabatur. Die 8 Maii mane ab hor. 1. sedulo nudis quasitus est oculis, sed nusquam apparuit, Telescopio tamen 12 ped. inventus, caudam quidem adhuc præ se ferens, sed brevissimam, paulò à circulo verticali sinistram versus extensam. Quantum conjectura assequi potui ; versabatur in $20^{\circ}8'$, in distantia à Sole 15° , qui tum 19 gradum 8 possidebat ; stabat ferè hoc tempore in lineâ rectâ, cum humero dextro Persei, & Algol. Medusæ, exquisitè tamen à fixis observari hodie haud potuit. Diameter Cometæ, ad Jovis diametrum comparata, vix ad dimidiam partem accedebat. De reliquo, Tubi beneficio satis erat adhuc conspicuus, adèd ut eum ad hor. 3.45' distinctè conspiciere potuerimus, in altitudine scilicet 9° ferè : unde colligere datur, arcum visionis vix 5° tum fuisse. Sol enim vix 5 grad. sub horizonte hærebat ; quo tempore omnes jam Stellæ, excepto unico Jove, evanuerunt : Sol crebatur limbo suo superiori hor. 4.6' ferè. Die 8 Maii vesperi Cometam nec nudis oculis, nec ullo Telescopio de tegere amplius potuimus. Die 9 mane & vesperi, ut ut anxie quasitus, nullâ tamen ratione conspectus ; nec die 10 Maii ; sic ut certum

tum sit, Cometam hunc die 8 mane à nobis hic Gedani ultimum esse deprehensum, & non nisi per 12 dies, nimirum à 27 Aprilis ad 8 Maii in Cælo fulsisse; quanquam, meâ opinione, multò citius detegi potuisset, si cælum nobis annuisset: Cum circa Piscem Boreum, sub Andromedâ adhuc versaretur; pariter longè diutius conspectus fuisset, si cursum suum motu retrogrado instituisset; verum cum indies motu directo Solem versùs latus fuerit, & in Conjunctione Solis ferè continuò hæserit, baud potuit ampliùs videri. Atque hæc sunt, Amice honorande, quæ hâc vice, rudiori modo, de hoc Cometâ illustriss. Regiæ Nostræ Societati, cum omnigenæ felicitatis voto, significare submitte volui. Quid Vos in Angliâ, vel alii in Galliâ & Italiâ, de hocce Cometâ annotastis, rursus à Te avidissimè, prima occasione, expecto.

Dabam Gedani Anno 1677. die 13 Maii, st.n.

Mr. Flamsteed's account of his Observations of the late Comet, sent in a Letter to the Publisher, Greenwich, May 18. 1677.

S I R,

I Have this day received a Note from Sr. Jonas Moore, in which he informs me, that you have received Papers concerning the late Comet both from Mr. Hevelius and Mr. Cassini, and that you desire to know what I observed of it. I am glad to hear you have accounts of it from two such able persons, who having observed and made theories for the Comets which appeared near the same place twice of late at twelve years interval, viz in 1653, and 1665, may best inform us, what conformity there is betwixt the Motions of this and them, and whether it may probably be the same returned hither after two revolutions; or another: My Observations of it, by reason of our cloudy Nights, were so few, that I can determine nothing from them; however perhaps they may be of use to others, who had more frequent opportunities, and therefore such as they are, they are at your service.

The first time that the Comet was taken notice of with us, that I can hear of, was about the middle of our Easter week; I believe it might have been observed long before, had not the unwonted cloudiness of our Heavens (which has permitted me to observe but 4 of almost 50 appulses of the Moon and Planets to fixed Stars foreseen hitherto) prevented. The first certain notice I had of it was on April 21. I waited the rising of the Comet; but immediately after midnight the Heavens were over-